

### PROBE OF STEEL MERGER WILL BE UNDERTAKEN ON SENATE'S ORDER

Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission are instructed to Make An Investigation.

**SENATOR LA FOLLETTE OFFERS RESOLUTION**

Proposed Combination of the Now Independent Companies Is Attacked By Solon From Wisconsin

(By The Associated Press.)

Washington, May 12.—An order from the senate to the department of justice and the federal trade commission to make an investigation followed close today upon the announcement in New York yesterday of the purchase of the Lackawanna Steel corporation by the Bethlehem Steel corporation, and upon reports recently circulated of a prospective merger of six large independent steel companies.

The order, embodied in a resolution offered by Senator La Follette, republican, Wisconsin, and adopted with little discussion except for an address by the Wisconsin senator, directed both federal agencies to inform the senate what steps have been taken or proposed to ascertain the probable effects of the merger and what action has been instituted to protect the public interest. The department of justice was further requested to advise the senate if proceedings under the Sherman and Clayton acts to restrain the combination were advisable.

Acting Attorney General Goff, after adoption of the resolution, said he could not comment on it until he had received a copy, but from other department of justice officials it was learned that while no plans had as yet been taken to prevent the merger, an investigation, as directed by the senate, would follow. These officials said definite reports of the merger had been available so recently that the department had not had time to investigate.

Federal trade commission officials said that in accordance with the senate resolution an investigation would be undertaken immediately. Senator La Follette, in calling up his resolution, offered several days ago, attacked the proposed combination of the now independent companies, declaring the merger, if effected, would work irreparable injury.

"The purpose of the merger is clear," he said. "It is the elimination of whatever competition now exists in the steel industry and the creation of a situation in which the new company will be able to fix prices on a monopoly basis without fear of detection."

### 24 MEMBERS OF 1881 NAVAL ACADEMY CLASS PLAN TRIP TO JAPAN

(By The Associated Press.)

Washington, May 12.—Twenty-four members of the class of 1881 at the naval academy will make the trip to Japan on the transport Henderson to attend the coronation of the emperor at Tokyo, in response to an invitation extended by Admiral Kuroki of the Japanese navy, also a member of the class.

The list of those authorized to take passage on the transport, issued by the navy department, shows that 17 of the former midshipmen will sail on the Henderson from Hampton Roads May 20. Among them are two lieutenants, Panama and six others will board at San Diego, from which port the Henderson will proceed via Honolulu, Guam and Manila to Yokohama.

Several class members will be accompanied by their families. The Henderson is expected to reach Yokohama July 2. On leaving Yokohama she will touch at Nagasaki, Shanghai, Canton, Peking and Hong Kong, and will reach San Francisco about September 1.

Secretary Denby has been elected honorary "brother-in-law" of the class and probably will make the trip, going aboard at San Diego.

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### HARDING TAKING BRIEF VACATION IN NEW JERSEY

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Abecon, N. J., May 12.—President Harding, after an all day trip by motor from Washington, arrived here late this afternoon and went at once to the Seaview Golf club, where he played a round of golf with Senator Edges, of New Jersey, his host, and other members of the party.

The president, who came to New Jersey for a "vacation" week end, traveled slowly through Maryland and Delaware without any particular demonstrations. But as he crossed the line into New Jersey he found school children waiting to greet him in almost every town through which he passed.

At Elmer several thousands were standing along the roads or grouped at a grand stand. The president stopped and made them a short speech. "There are times," he remarked, "when I think it is burdensome to be president. But when I see you children, and the people of a state so anxious to pay honor to me, it is very gratifying."

"I can only say a few words. But I find it here much like California. In its enthusiasm and the other states, with New Jersey people what I wish the entire country—a restoration of growing prosperity."

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### DASHES FOR LIBERTY THROUGH CAR WINDOW: TAKES BOY WITH HIM

(By The Associated Press.)

Lancaster, Ohio, May 12.—An attempt to escape from a fifteen-year-old boy handcuffed to his wrist meant nothing to a Pomeroy negro bootlegger, when it came to making a dash for liberty on a train running for the first time yesterday. So through the windows he went taking the boy with him. The lad suffered a broken shoulder and other severe injuries. The negro, John Spunkin, said he was being taken to the Dayton workhouse to serve a sentence for bootlegging. The boy, Leonard, was being taken to the state reformatory school at Lancaster. The two officers in charge of the prisoners had handcuffed them together. Both prisoners were recaptured.

### 2 CHILDREN AT POINT OF DEATH FROM BURNS

(By The Associated Press.)

Durango, Colo., May 12.—"Bow," aged 3 years, and Molly, 5, son and daughter of the Rev. W. H. Phillips of Aztec, N. M., near here at the point of death in their home today as the result of burns received when they attempted to light a gas furnace. Their mother received painful burns while attempting to rescue them.

Attended by the priest of the youngsters who were playing in the furnace room, Mrs. Phillips rushed in to find them enveloped in flames. Snatching a rug she smothered the blaze and summoned the fire department.

The children were playing in the basement of the Baptist church, where the family lives, when they went into the furnace room and attempted to light a fire. Molly turned on the gas and her brother spent some time trying to light a match. The gas was pouring out of the door when Molly came to her brother's side just as the baby succeeded in starting the match. Immediately the youngsters were wrapped in flames. Their father is in Texas on church business.

### PORTUGUESE CRUISER PICKS UP AVIATORS

(By The Associated Press.)

Lisbon, May 12.—The Portuguese cruiser Republica sent word today that she had taken on board Captains Coutinho and Sacadura, the Portuguese aviators who attempted to fly in their new hydro-airplane yesterday from Fernando Noronha, off the Brazilian coast, to St. Paul rocks and return. They were picked up by the British steamer Paris City after their machine fell and later transferred to the Republica.

Neither of the aviators was any the worse for their experience, the message stated.

It is believed the hydro-airplane has been saved and will be returned to Fernando Noronha for another attempt by the trans-Atlantic fliers to complete their flight from Portugal to Brazil which now has been twice interrupted by mishaps.

### JESS WILLARD IS NOT SEEKING A MATCH WITH DEMPSEY, HE STATES

(By The Associated Press.)

Los Angeles, Calif., May 12.—Jess Willard, heavyweight boxer, mentioned in recent dispatches from Paris as a possible early opponent for Jack Dempsey, is not seeking a match with the world's champion, according to a statement attributed to Willard today by a local newspaper.

Willard, who won the championship from Jack Johnson and lost it to Dempsey, arrived here sometime yesterday. The newspaper story quoted him as having said that his private business was keeping him on the jump and that he did not have time to give the ring game serious thought.

### ROLLING UP OUR SLEEVES.

Judge W. W. McClellan, former police judge, has sued the editor of the Journal for libel, claiming that the paper had published a story that he was a thief and a liar. McClellan claims that the story was false and that he has been damaged by its publication. The Journal denies the charges and claims that the story was based on reliable sources. The case is now pending in court.

### DAY OF ST. VALENTINE IS HOODOO TO ROMANCE OF CHICAGO WOMAN

(By The Associated Press.)

Chicago, May 12.—St. Valentine's day is usually considered a twenty-four hours out of the year consecrated to lovers and love. But Mrs. Irene Leone says it's all wrong. In fact, in her alimony petition, she charges that it was Valentine's day that she met her present lover, a man who has since abandoned her. She is asking alimony and separate maintenance.

### STATE TROOPERS PATROL STREETS IN STRIKE ZONE

(By The Associated Press.)

Haverstraw, N. Y., May 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—A handful of state troopers from White Plains tonight were patrolling the streets of this Hudson river town, ready to quell any disorders which might result from a strike called yesterday by 1,500 negro workers who have succeeded in shutting down sixteen brick plants scattered along about two miles of water front.

Most of the strikers arrived within the last few weeks from the south. Employers described them as "floating labor," explaining that they were accustomed to hire extra hands in spring and fall, at brick making was a seasonal industry. Employers said the trouble—which they described as a riot rather than a strike—started yesterday when they asserted that about 200 men from one plant, armed with cordwood clubs, marched out, urged workers at other plants to quit and beat up those who would not.

The strikers, who are not unionized, claim that bricks recently were advanced in price, asking a dollar a day more. They now are receiving \$3.50 to \$4.10.

### GREEK PREMIER RESIGNS.

Athens, May 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—Demetrius Gounaris resigned the premiership today.

### WITNESS TESTIFIES SHE SAW THE DEFENDANT AT LONG BEACH THE NIGHT KENNEDY WAS SHOT TO DEATH.

(By The Associated Press.)

Los Angeles, Calif., May 12.—The defense in the trial of Arthur C. Burch, accused of murdering J. Edgar Kennedy here last autumn, rested late today.

One of the defense witnesses, Mrs. Emma Elderton, testified today she saw Burch at Long Beach, twenty-two miles south of Los Angeles, between 8:35 and 8:40 on the night of August 5 last. Kennedy was slain at Beverly Glen, fifteen miles northwest of this city, shortly after 9 o'clock that night.

Mrs. Elderton declared she saw Burch in front of a "lollypop stand" at the beach resort and remembered him because he stopped to pick up a dime she had dropped.

The next time she saw him, she testified, was last December, during his first trial, when he was taken with the jury to view the surroundings of the building in which Kennedy's office was located. She said she had just finished lunch when she saw a crowd across the street and asked someone what it meant, and was told Burch and his jury were there. When the prisoner was pointed out to her, she said, he "looked familiar" to her and on March 24, last, she went to the county jail to see if he was the man she had seen at Long Beach.

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### ARMY AND NAVY PAY MEASURE IS PASSED, 219-26

Bill Now Goes to the Senate: Alice Robertson Wins Her Fight for More Money for Nurses.

(By The Associated Press.)

Washington, May 12.—The McKenzie bill readjusting the pay and allowances of the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the army, navy, marine corps, coast guard, coast and geodetic survey and public health service, was passed today by the house, 219-26.

The bill will go immediately to the senate, as leaders had announced that the army and navy supply bills, already passed by the house, were being held up so that the new pay scales could be instituted.

The house defeated, 221 to 40, a motion by Representative Connally, democrat, Texas, to recommit the bill to the committee which framed it, with instructions to eliminate the section authorizing money allowances for subsistence to be determined by the president for a year in accordance with a certificate by the secretary of labor showing the comparative retail cost of food in the United States for the previous year as compared with prices in 1922. Had this section been retained the rate allowed in 1922 would have stood.

Representative Alice Robertson, republican, Oklahoma, won her fight for higher subsistence and room rent for army and navy nurses. Her amendment increased the subsistence rate from 60 cents to \$1.20 a day and rent from \$40 to \$60 a month.

Under an amendment by Representative Bland, republican, Indiana, adopted by the house, former national guardsmen taken into the army will be given the benefit of 50 per cent of their guard service in determining their rating.

Chairman McKenzie of the committee in charge of the bill, declared that it represented six months of toil, that in the years to come it would "save millions of dollars" and would bring satisfaction to all ranks in the various services.

### BEAUVAIS SOLD MRS. STILLMAN'S LETTERS, CHARGE

Indian Guide Is Said to Have Disposed of Two for \$15,000 to One of the Lawyers for Stillman.

(By The Associated Press.)

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., May 12.—Testimony that two letters written by Mrs. Anne U. Stillman to Fred Beavais, Indian guide, had been purchased last week from Beavais for \$15,000 by one of the lawyers representing James